

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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R 181230Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7304
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INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

UNCLAS QUITO 6975

FOR: WASHINGTON ACTION GROUP (WAG)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EC

SUBJECT: FY 1976 COUNTRY COMMERCIAL PROGRAM (CCP):
MEETING OF MISSION ACTION GROUP (MAG)

REF: QUITO 6073

1. MAG ON SEPTEMBER 10 CONTINUED ITS SERIES OF MONTHLY MEETINGS.
MAIN TOPICS FOLLOW:

2. GUAYAQUIL INTERNATIONAL FAIR: QUITO E/C OFFICER DANA MARSHALL, WHO HAS BEEN DETAILED PERIODICALLY TO GUAYAQUIL TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO OFFICERS THERE, PROVIDED UPDATED REPORT ON ACTIVITIES. IN GENERAL, HE REPORTED, DIFFICULTIES ARE BEING OVERCOME AND PROSPECTS ARE GOOD THAT ALL ESSENTIALS WILL HAVE BEEN COMPLETED SATISFACTORILY BY OPENING OF FAIR SEPTEMBER 26. AFTER DISCUSSION OF CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE REQUIRED WORK, PARTICULARLY IN CONNECTION WITH OCTOBER 2 "U.S. DAY" AT FAIR, DCM ASSIGNED ACTION RESPONSIBILITIES.

3. PARTICIPANTS ALSO REVIEWED STATUS OF ACTIONS REQUIRED DURING FIRST QUARTER FOR EACH CAMPAIGN IN CCP. IN GENERAL, IT WAS FOUND THAT ACTIONS ARE PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY, AND CAMPAIGN MANAGERS REAFFIRMED THEIR UNDERTAKINGS TO COMPLETE ALL SCHEDULED FIRST-QUARTER ACTIONS BY SEPTEMBER 30.

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4. PARTICIPANTS ALSO DISCUSSED RECENT DECISION OF THE ECUADOREAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GUAYAQUIL, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED EARLIER THIS YEAR, TO CHANGE ITS NAME TO THE "INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GUAYAQUIL", AND TO CHANGE ITS CONSTITUTION SO AS TO OPEN ITS MEMBERSHIP FREELY TO REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL COUNTRIES. CONSENSUS WAS REACHED THAT, WHILE THIS MOVE IS REGRETTABLE IN THAT THE U.S. MISSION DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME AND EFFORT TO HELPING THE CHAMBER BECOME ESTABLISHED, AND DID SO ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE CHAMBER WOULD SERVE PRIMARILY AS AN INSTRUMENTALITY FOR FOSTERING MORE AND BETTER TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN ECUADOR AND THE UNITED STATES, WE UNDERSTAND THE REASONS WHICH PROMPTED THE DECISION, AND WE BELIEVE THE CHAMBER IN ITS REVISED FORM CAN ALSO EFFECTIVELY SERVE THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH WE HAVE BEEN LENDING IT SUPPORT. WE NOTED IN PARTICULAR THAT, UNDER THE REVISED CONSTITUTION, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE CONSULATE GENERAL IN GUAYAQUIL WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE CHAMBER (SINCE THE REVISED CONSTITUTION RESERVES A PLACE ON THE BOARD FOR AN OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF WHICHEVER COUNTRY HAS THE LARGEST VOLUME OF TRADE WITH ECUADOR). THE ONLY SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE AS REGARDS THE BOARD UNDER THE REVISED CONSTITUTION IS THAT A PLACE ON THE BOARD IS NOW ALSO RESERVED FOR AN OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF ONE OTHER COUNTRY, TO BE SELECTED BY THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

BREWSTER

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